

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Claims 1 and 2 (**Cancelled**).

3. **(Currently Amended)** A method for the treatment of scarring on the skin which comprises applying to the treatment area across a wound on the surface of the skin a pharmaceutical composition or biomaterial comprised of at least one hyaluronic acid derivative selected from the group consisting of an ester with an alcohol, an auto-crosslinked ester, a crosslinked derivative, a hemiester of succinic acid with hyaluronic acid, an O-sulphated derivative and an O/N sulphated derivative, optionally in association with at least one additional pharmacologically or biologically active compound.
4. **(Original)** Use of a hyaluronic acid derivative for the treatment of scarring on the skin, optionally in combination with at least one additional pharmacologically or biologically active compound.
5. **(Previously Presented)** The method according to claim 3, wherein said scarring is normotrophic scarring.
6. **(Currently Amended)** The method according to claim 3, wherein the hyaluronic acid derivative is an ester of hyaluronic acid wherein a part or all of the carboxy functions are esterified with an alcohols of the aliphatic, aromatic, arylaliphatic, cycloaliphatic, and heterocyclic series.
7. **(Currently Amended)** The method according to claim 3, wherein the derivative of hyaluronic acid is an autocross-linked ester of hyaluronic acid wherein part or all of the carboxy groups are esterified with the alcoholic functions of the same polysaccharide-hyaluronic acid chain or other chains.

8. **(Currently Amended)** The method according to claim 3, wherein the hyaluronic acid derivative is a cross-linked compound of hyaluronic acid wherein part or all of the carboxy groups are esterified with a polyalcohols of the aliphatic, aromatic, arylaliphatic, cycloaliphatic heterocyclic series, generating cross-linking by means of spacer chains.
9. **(Currently Amended)** The method according to claim 3, wherein the hyaluronic acid derivative is an hemiesters of succinic acid or a heavy metal salt of the hemiester of succinic acid with hyaluronic acid or with a partial or total esters of hyaluronic acid.
10. **(Previously Presented)** The method according to claim 3, wherein the hyaluronic acid derivative is an O-sulphated or O/N-sulphated derivative.
11. **(Previously Presented)** The method according to claim 3, wherein the hyaluronic acid derivative is an amide derivative of hyaluronic acid.
12. **(Currently Amended)** The method according to any one of claims 3 and 5-11, wherein the hyaluronic acid derivative is in the form of a gel, ~~guide channel~~, sponge, non-woven fabric, thread, perforated or non-perforated membrane, microsphere, nanosphere, gauze pad or a ~~combiantion~~combination thereof.
13. **(Previously Presented)** The method according to any one of claims 3 and 5-11, wherein the pharmacologically or biologically active substance is an antibiotic, growth factor, antimicotic, antimicrobial, antiviral agent, disinfectant, phospholipid or anaesthetic.
14. **(Original)** A method for treating scarring of the skin which comprises administering to a patient in need thereof an effective scar treatment amount of a hyaluronic acid derivative.

15. (New) The method according to claim 3, wherein the hyaluronic acid derivative is an ester of hyaluronic acid wherein a part or all of the carboxy functions are esterified with an alcohol of the aliphatic or aromatic series.
16. (New) The method according to claim 3, wherein the hyaluronic acid derivative is an ester of hyaluronic acid wherein a part or all of the carboxy functions are esterified with benzyl alcohol.
17. (New) The method according to claim 3, wherein the hyaluronic acid derivative is an ester of hyaluronic acid wherein 75% of the carboxy functions are esterified with benzyl alcohol.